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	:	a Communications Network		
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	:			
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RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF
(37 CFR 41.37)

In response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated as mailed April 20, 2010, this response is being submitted to provide an explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the Appeal Brief.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The present invention relates to a utilization method within a communication network and computer readable medium having a computer usable program code embodied therewith. A service request message is received from a service consumer by a metering handler. The metering handler generates a meter event request associated with the service request and evaluates a status of at least one parameter. The metering handler compares an amount of stored meter event requests stored in a cache memory with the at least one parameter and stores the meter event request in the cache memory or sends the meter event request and an entire contents of the cache memory to a metering service in order to process the meter event requests based on the evaluation and the comparison. The at least one parameter is associated with the service request and a predefined convention, and the at least one parameter defines how many meter event requests may be stored in the cache memory.

Claims 21 and 35 are independent claims. Claim 21 is an independent method claim reciting a utilization method within a communications network. As described below, the features of claim 21 are represented in Figure 1 and are described beginning on page 8, line 11 and continuing through page 9, line 21. The first element, paragraph or feature of claim 21 is directed to receiving, by a metering handler, a service request message from a service consumer. A metering handler is represented in Figure 2 by reference numeral 50 and the different components and operations of the metering handler are described beginning on page 10, line 7 and continuing through page 12, line 30. On page 10, lines 27 and 28, an input device 59 of the metering handler 50 in Figure 2 is described as receiving a service request from a service consumer.

The second element, paragraph or feature of claim 21 is generating, by the metering handler, a meter event request associated with the service request. This feature is described on page 11, lines 7-12 of the specification which provides that a meter event generator 62 of the metering handler 50 in Figure 2 creates a meter event request. Block 22 of Figure 1 and page 8, lines 17-19 of the specification also describe generating a meter event request.

The third element, paragraph or feature of claim 21 is evaluating, by the metering handler, a status of at least one parameter. This feature is covered on page 8, lines 22-26 of the

specification which describes that step 24 in Figure 1 evaluates the status of a CEP (Cache Enable Parameter), and as described on page 9, lines 6-8, step 26 of Figure 1 evaluates a CFP (Cache Flush Parameter). Page 11 lines 13-30 also describe evaluating the CEP and CFP in components of the metering handler 50 in Figure 2.

The fourth element, paragraph or feature of claim 21 is comparing, by the metering handler, an amount of stored meter event requests stored in a cache memory with the at least one parameter. This feature is represented by block or step 26 in Figure 1 and is described on page 9, lines 6-8 of the specification. A cache memory is also represented by reference numeral 70 in Figure 2 and is described beginning on page 11, line 17 of the specification and continuing on page 12 through line 2 of the specification.

The fifth element, paragraph or feature of claim 21 is storing, by the metering handler, the meter event request in the cache memory or sending the meter event request and an entire contents of the cache memory to a metering service in order to process the meter event requests based on the evaluation and the comparison. These feature are represented by blocks or steps 26, 27 and 28 in Figure 1 and are described on page 9 lines 12-20 of the specification.

The sixth element, paragraph or feature of claim 21 provides that at least one parameter is associated with the service request and a predefined convention, and said at least one parameter defines how many meter event requests may be stored in the cache memory. This feature is represented by the CFP (Cache Flush Parameter) and is described on page 9, lines 5-11 of the specification.

Claim 35 is a computer readable medium claim having computer usable program code embodied therewith. The computer usable program code when executed causing a processing device to perform the functions recited in claim 35 as further described below. Page 20, lines 6-10 of the specification provide that the present invention can also be embodied in a computer program product which comprises all the features enabling the implementation of the methods described in the specification. Further, when loaded in a computer system the computer program product is able to carry out the methods described in the specification.

The first element, paragraph or feature of claim 35 involves receiving a service request message from a service consumer. Page 10, lines 27 and 28 of the specification described an

input device 59 of the metering handler 50 in Figure 2 receiving a service request from a service consumer.

The second element, paragraph or feature of claim 35 is directed to generating a meter event request associated with the service request. Block 22 of Figure 1 and page 8, lines 17-19 of the specification describe generating a meter event request.

The third element, paragraph or feature of claim 35 recites evaluating, by a cache enabler, a status of at least one parameter. As described on page 8, lines 22-26 of the specification, step 24 in Figure 1 evaluates the status of a CEP (Cache Enable Parameter), and as described on page 9, lines 6-11, step 26 of Figure 1 evaluates a CFP (Cache Flush Parameter). Page 11, lines 13-16 of the specification also describes evaluating the CEP by the cache enabler 64 in Figure 2.

The fourth element, paragraph or feature of claim 35 recites comparing an amount of stored meter event requests stored in a cache memory with the at least one parameter. This feature is represented by block or step 26 in Figure 1 and is described on page 9, lines 6-11 of the specification. A cache memory is also represented by reference numeral 70 in Figure 2 and described on page 11, lines 18-29 of the specification.

The fifth element, paragraph or feature of claim 35 recites storing the meter event request in the cache memory or send the meter event request and an entire contents of the cache memory to a metering service in order to process the meter event requests based on the evaluation and the comparison. These feature are represented by blocks or steps 26, 27 and 28 in Figure 1 and are described on page 9 lines 12-28 of the specification.

The sixth element, paragraph or feature of claim 35 recites wherein said at least one parameter is associated with the service request and a predefined convention, and said at least one parameter defines how many meter event requests may be stored in the cache memory. This feature is represented by the CFP (Cache Flush Parameter) and is described on page 9, lines 6-11 of the specification.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the Appeal Brief is now in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37(c). Continuance of the Appeal is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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